

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

SOLAFRICA



PREFACE

Dear readers,

It's unfortunate that there is more than enough bad news at the moment. We at Solafrika have some good news for you – because a lot of good things have happened for us in 2023.

We and our Kenyan partners are especially proud to have launched a solar training programme for young women: 37 participants started their first course in Nairobi. This training gives women the opportunity to develop their skills and become certified in solar technology in the summer of 2024 – a fine example of our principle of Empowerment through Training.

On the east coast of Kenya, in Kilifi, the same project has given rise to a self-help group for widows, which aims at generating a personal income by running a solar grain mill. Achieving financial independence is an important step towards a self-determined life for Kenyan women.

The Santé Solaire programme, for the electrification of rural health centres, also focuses on targeted support for women. The programme was expanded last year from Burkina Faso to Niger and Togo.

And there are more bright spots from the year 2023:

- In Kenya, 55 disadvantaged youth successfully completed their training as solar technicians with a state examination. Their next step is an internship at a local solar company (pages 9 to 11).
- The first phase of our Solar Learning programme was completed in Ethiopia. In the last five years, around 500 young people have been trained in the sale, installation and maintenance of solar systems (pages 11 to 12).
- As part of the global Scouts go Solar project, two regional training sessions in 2023 trained a total of 32 scout leaders from 29 countries in Africa and Latin America as solar ambassadors. They are now making their own solar projects a reality in their home countries (pages 19 to 20).

It delights and motivates us every time to witness when Solafrika helps young people to gain prospects in their home country, actively and concretely with jobs. These successes are only possible thanks to you – whether it's through your direct project support, sponsoring membership, donation or purchase of a solar vignette.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Kuno Roth and Cédric Marty
Co-Presidents of Solafrika



Kuno Roth
Kuno Roth



C. Marty
Cédric Marty



CONTENT

01 VISION AND APPROACH 1

02 NEWS FROM OUR PROJECTS 3

Programme East Africa 2023–2025 5

Strong women for equality 7

My way out of poverty 10

Springboard out of unemployment 11

In conversation with Cète Tiendrebéogo 17

Solar vignette 21

03 THE ORGANISATION 23

Team 24

Solafrica Association 25

04 FINANCES AND ACCOUNTING 27

Financial situation and planning 28

P/L statement 29

Balance sheet 30

Funding sources 31

LEGAL NOTICE 33

01 VISION AND APPROACH

02

OUR VISION IS A WORLD IN WHICH A SUFFICIENT MODERN ENERGY SUPPLY FOR EVERYONE EXISTS IN HARMONY WITH CLIMATE PROTECTION.



SOLAR LEARNING

Training solar technicians will create career opportunities while reducing the local shortage of skilled workers. This will lead to an expanded supply on the solar market and thus to more solar energy and more local value creation.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

In solar workshops, children and young adults get to experience solar energy and understand it as a positive technology of the future. This increases their awareness and understanding of a climate-friendly, safe and social energy supply.



DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOLAR MARKET

Thanks to a broad-based package of measures, the general economic and social conditions for solar energy are improving. This in turn is allowing for better development of the local solar market.

SOLAR INFRASTRUCTURE

Installing non-profit solar systems and ensuring that they are used properly improves the livelihoods of people who are affected by energy poverty.



INNOVATION

Thanks to the promotion of innovations in technology, education, organisational structure and financing, the energy supply situation is improving and preference is turning more towards the use of climate-friendly energy.

**OZ NEWS FROM OUR
PROJECTS**

O



Switzerland

Niger

**Burkina
Faso**

Togo

Cameroon

Ethiopia

Kenya



You can find out more about our
projects here:

➤ www.solafrica.ch/en/projects



PROGRAMME EAST AFRICA

2023–2025

Solafrica has been active in East Africa since it was founded in 2009. The realisation of various solar projects in recent years has not only enabled us to build a solid foundation of expertise, but also to establish an extensive local network. New synergies were created in the region in 2023.

There are many regions in Kenya and Ethiopia that still have no access to electricity. This is a major problem for the two East African countries. Energy is crucial for overcoming poverty and for promoting sustainable development.

The potential of solar energy in East Africa is enormous: at 2,100 kilowatt hours per square metre, the annual average solar radiation is almost twice as high as in Switzerland. In rural areas, which are often far away from the electricity grid, a decentralised energy supply is ideal. Small and medium-sized solar systems are often the most cost-effective solution in sub-Saharan Africa.

The solar sector also harbours considerable employment opportunities: Between 2019 and 2021, 50,000 jobs were created in the decentralised renewable energy sector in Kenya alone. It is expected that up to 26 million jobs could be created in this sector in Africa by 2050.

To make the most of the existing potential in Kenya and Ethiopia, in 2023, Solafrica launched the regional programme East Africa 2023–2025. This promotes interchange between the two countries and creates synergies between the various activities. In September 2023, our Ethiopian partners for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) visited our partner organisation Solar Mtaani in Kenya.

Dive into our projects in Ethiopia and Kenya on the following pages (7–12).

PROJECT

SOLAR ADVOCACY

📍 Ethiopia

📅 Since 2021

👤 Responsibility: Florian Schlegel

🔗 www.solafrica.ch/en/projects/solar-advocacy

The Solar Advocacy project is helping the solar sector in Ethiopia to establish a stronger institutional framework and deeper networking within the solar industry.

PROJECT

SOLAR FUELS

📍 Ethiopia

📅 Since 2021

👤 Responsibility: Martin Theiler

🔗 www.solafrica.ch/en/projects/solar-fuels

The Solar Fuels project is establishing a centre of excellence for the production of renewable solar fuels at the Adama Science and Technology University in Ethiopia.

STRONG WOMEN FOR EQUALITY

7

News from our projects

With Solar Learning for Women, a new solar project has been launched in Kenya that focuses on the needs of women.

Discrimination and unequal treatment based on gender are a problem worldwide. In Kenya, it is much harder for women than for men to gain access to education, employment and equal pay for work of equal value. At the same time, studies have shown that global poverty would decrease if there were more equality.

In order to address this situation, we are supporting the initiative of our long-standing partner organisation Solar Mtaani in Kenya, with whom we have launched the project Solar Learning for Women. Abigail W. Okello, the Managing Director of Solar Mtaani, has long been volunteering her efforts to empower women, and knows their exact needs.

From 2023 to 2025, Solar Learning for Women will give around 300 women the opportunity to learn the basics of solar technology. To this end, three training centres are being set up for the districts of Busia, Kisumu, Kilifi and Nairobi.

One focus of the training programme is on the productive use of solar energy in the processing of agricultural products. The project participants acquire all the skills they need to operate a solar grain mill or a solar dehydrator, for example, and to set up a small business from there.

The training is geared towards the needs and opportunities of women, including young mothers. To enable the women to attend the courses even if they have other commitments, the training is often organised in half-day teaching units.

The project started in 2023 with its first training course in Nairobi, in which 37 women from the informal settlement of Mathare took part. Their acquired skills open up new employment opportunities for them. Thanks to our partnerships in the local solar industry, we also have the means to actively support the women in finding work after their training.

Earning their own money, and thus achieving financial independence, is an important first step towards equality for Kenyan women.





PROJECT

SOLAR LEARNING FOR WOMEN

📍 Kenya

📅 Since 2023

👤 Responsibility: Florian Schlegel

🔗 www.solafrica.ch/en/projects/solar-learning-for-women

37 YOUNG WOMEN

started their training in Nairobi in 2023.



PROJECT

SOLAR LEARNING YOUTH CENTERS

📍 Kenya

📅 2021

👤 Responsibility: Anna Abel

🔗 solafrica.ch/en/projects/solar-learning

55 DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

were successfully trained
as solar specialists in 2023.

MY WAY OUT OF POVERTY

Sometimes all it takes is an outstretched hand and an open ear for a life to fully unfold: The story of a young man who seized his opportunity.

“As a teenager, I had to find a way for my family to survive,” says Collins Selifano (22). For several years, he worked in construction under the toughest conditions – for barely 3 francs a day. His father was ill and could not support the family. His mother had left her children and her husband. The two younger siblings were still at school.

While he was ensuring the survival of his family, his colleagues went on to attend college or university. In the spring of 2022, he heard about a solar training programme from an acquaintance. Collins applied and was offered a place in our Solar Learning Youth Centres project. “I was presented with the opportunity of an education and thus a chance at a new life,” Collins Selifano relates. And he seized this opportunity.

Abigael W. Okello, the project manager on site, remembers: “Collins was shy at first. Then he suddenly bloomed! This is mainly thanks to Stanley Kung’u Nfuguna, who works as a psychologist at the youth centre.”

Collins looks back gratefully on the conversations with Stanley Kung’u Nfuguna: “I was abandoned by my mother at an early age and felt alone. During my conversations with Stanley, I had the chance to pour my heart out. That helped me to do this training and to overcome my loneliness.”

After the solar training at the youth centre, Collins Selifano was able to start an internship at a solar company last spring. He is now a permanent employee. “I want to become a top solar engineer. My big role model is my boss here,” he adds with a broad smile on his face.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Solar Learning Youth Centres is a training programme for disadvantaged youth in Kenya. The training is designed to provide general knowledge in mathematics and physics as well as theoretical and practical knowledge in solar technology. What they learn is put into practice by building a solar system. In cooperation with four solar companies, workshops are also held and taster days and internships are offered.

Sustainable prospects are created by providing young people with intensive and inclusive training. They are closely supported by our project partners in Kenya along the way. The young people complete their training with an examination and receive a state-recognised licence as a solar specialist.

The second project phase from 2024 to 2026 envisages an expansion of the previous activities, so that a total of 305 young people will benefit from training to become solar specialists.



Abigael W. Okello and Collins Selifano

SPRINGBOARD OUT OF UNEMPLOYMENT

11

The Solar Learning Ethiopia project has been a springboard out of unemployment for hundreds of young adults in recent years. Habte Sitotaw (23) is one of those who seized this opportunity.

In close cooperation with our partner organisations in Ethiopia, we have trained around 500 young people in the sale, installation and maintenance of solar systems over the past five years. Almost 400 of the trained solar specialists

are now working as employees or small business owners in the Ethiopian solar industry.

One of them is 23-year-old Habte Sitotaw from Bahir Dar, the capital of the Amhara Regional State. "After I finished 10th grade, I was unemployed. But my family was dependent on my help," says Habte. In 2020, he seized an opportunity: he applied for the Solar Learning programme and was offered a training place.



Since 2018, the budding solar specialists in Ethiopia have installed a total of 15 solar systems at schools and health centres as part of their training. This has allowed them to put what they have learnt into practice and thus hone their skills further. At the same time, these installations help to improve the teaching conditions (lighting, printers, computers) in remote schools and treatment facilities in rural health centres.

The trainees have also installed more than 7,000 small solar systems in remote households, giving over 40,000 people access to light and electricity for charging small electronic devices such as radios and mobile phones.

“Solar Learning gave me skills that boosted my self-confidence,” Habte Sitotaw says. After his training, he set up a successful repair service for solar systems and other electronic devices. “I can now pay the bill for our house rent and other expenses.”

The unrest in the north of the country has had a negative impact on our project work in the past year. There have been exceptional circumstances with periods of no Internet. This has made communication with our local project partners much more difficult. Although this led to delays in the implementation, the first phase of the project was successfully completed.

Given the success of Solar Learning Ethiopia, the next project phase is being planned: training activities can continue at four out of six vocational schools despite the difficult conditions in the country. An expansion of four additional vocational schools is also planned.

PERFORMANCE FIGURES FOR THE LAST PROJECT PHASE (2018–2023):

- **496 young people** were trained as solar specialists.
- **15 solar systems** were built at schools and health centres.
- More than **7,000 small solar systems** were installed in remote households.
- **40,000 people** were given access to light and electricity.

PROJECT

SOLAR LEARNING ETHIOPIA

📍 Ethiopia

📅 Since 2017

👤 Responsibility: Florian Schlegel

🔗 solafrica.ch/en/projects/solar-learning-ethiopia

496
SOLAR EXPERTS
were trained between 2018 and 2023.

SOLAR ENERGY FOR HEALTH IN WEST AFRICA

The lack of access to energy is one of the biggest obstacles to economic and social development in the Global South. “Energy poverty” is particularly high in sub-Saharan Africa. At health facilities, the lack of access to light during the dark nights can have fatal consequences.

More than half of the health centres in sub-Saharan Africa have no or only unreliable electricity. A lack of light can lead to errors in treatment. Women giving birth and newborn babies in particular suffer the sometimes fatal consequences. In addition, without electricity, it is impossible to operate electronic devices or run refrigerators for vaccines. To provide a minimal power supply, rural health centres currently rely on expensive and environmentally harmful diesel generators, or use battery-powered torches to provide makeshift light.

Solafrica has several years of project experience in the field of solar energy in rural healthcare in West Africa: In our project countries Burkina Faso, Niger and Togo, sustainable solar energy is being used to create conditions that help to improve the health of the rural population. Modern technologies are being adapted to the needs of people and local conditions. The installed systems thus help to increase confidence in solar technology in these countries.

It is important to ensure that the solar systems will work perfectly for years to come. The staff of the respective health centres are accordingly trained in their operation. We also work with local solar companies to guarantee long-term maintenance of the solar systems.

In recent years, Solafrica has been active in West Africa with two projects in the health sector. The first project, Climate Caravan in Cameroon, was concluded in 2023 with an evaluation (see page 15). The great deal of experience gained and the networks established in the region form a strong basis for further project activities in West Africa. Thus the second project, Santé Solaire in Burkina Faso, was expanded into a multi-country programme: in 2023, activities started in the countries Niger and Togo (see page 16).







EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT CLIMATE CARAVAN

With the Climate Caravan, Solafrica has been active in Cameroon since 2010. From 2019 to 2023, we focused on the project “Solar energy for better basic medical care in rural health centres”. The project was concluded in 2023 with an evaluation.

PERFORMANCE FIGURES OF THE LAST PROJECT PHASE (2019–2023):

- **51 solar-powered refrigerators and 21 solar systems** were installed in a total of 57 health centres.
- **This has given over 160,000 people** access to improved healthcare.
- The solar fridges were granted tax exemption by the Ministry of Health, saving an estimated **CHF 70,000**.

THESE WERE THE FOUR POINTS OF IMPROVEMENT MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED BY HEALTHCARE STAFF:

- The reliable lighting facilitates treatments – especially during labour and delivery.
- The solar refrigerators allow for flexible availability of the vaccines.
- The loss of vaccines and medication can be avoided by refrigeration, which has a positive financial impact.
- The cost savings can be used to cover other necessary expenses.

The completion of the Climate Caravan project also marks the start of a sustainable improvement in healthcare for tens of thousands of people in Cameroon.

SANTÉ SOLAIRE PROGRAMME

The Santé Solaire project in Burkina Faso was expanded into a multi-country programme in 2023. This led to the forging of new partnerships with local organisations in Niger (ACRPE) and Togo (Association Kekeli) as well as with solar companies, health experts and authorities. In order to ensure the successful implementation of the Santé Solaire concept and the high quality of expertise in the new countries as well, the regional coordination of the programme has been entrusted to SETHI in Burkina Faso.

The regional cooperation has got off to a very successful start. In November and December, the coordinators from the three project countries met in Togo to discuss the experience gained from Burkina Faso. They took the opportunity together to witness the installation of a solar system in a health centre and to consult with solar companies. In addition, two solar technicians from Niger received further training in Togo, thus further anchoring the knowledge of solar technology in Niger.

In 2023, a total of ten health centres were equipped with solar energy, four of them in Togo and six in Burkina Faso. Construction of the first solar systems in Niger is planned for 2024.



PROJECT

CLIMATE CARAVAN

📍 Cameroon

📅 2010-2023

👤 Responsibility: **Flora Conte**

🔗 www.solafrica.ch/en/projects/climate-caravan-cameroon

PROGRAMME

SANTÉ SOLAIRE

📍 Burkina Faso, Niger, Togo

📅 Since 2020

👤 Responsibility: **Flora Conte**

🔗 solafrica.ch/en/projects/sante-solaire-burkina-faso



10 HEALTH CENTRES

were electrified in Burkina Faso and Togo in 2023.

IN CONVERSATION WITH CÈTE TIENDREBÉOGO

17

News from our projects

One of our most important cooperation partners in West Africa is Cète Tiendrebéogo from Burkina Faso. The regional project coordinator of the Santé Solaire programme told us about his experiences during his visit to Switzerland in the summer of 2023.

“A baby doesn’t wait until it’s daytime to be born,” Cète Tiendrebéogo says. What seems obvious is of enormous importance in a health centre that doesn’t have electricity. In West Africa, rural health centres are often the only place to go for mothers giving birth.

As the founder of SETHI in 2011, Cète Tiendrebéogo has acquired extensive expertise in the field of photovoltaics and health. He actively uses these skills to contribute to the further development of the Santé Solaire concept.

Cète reports, “During childbirth, for example, it is possible for the tissue to tear, which later leads to urine incontinence. In turn, this can result in the woman who gave birth being ostracised from society. That’s why appropriate medical care is extremely important even at night – and that requires light.”

In addition to the positive impact on the healthcare system, the work done in the project creates trust in solar energy itself: “We only use high-quality solar systems. Thus we have shown that our systems continue to work even after several years. Such health centres are often located in the middle of the village. Everyone in the village can see that the lights are on and that the building is being reliably supplied with electricity. This creates confidence in both medical care and solar energy,” Cète Tiendrebéogo asserts.

And what is the motivation behind his tireless work? “I want to create something in my life that will outlive me.”



PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Solafrica focuses on the promotion of strong local partner organisations. One of Solafrica’s aims is to strengthen the partner organisations in their organisational development to the point where they can independently put initiatives into practice to spread solar energy and reduce energy poverty.

PROJECT

JUGENDSOLAR

📍 Switzerland

📅 Since 2020

👤 Responsibility: Amadeus Thiemann

🔗 www.solafrika.ch/en/projects/jugendsolar-switzerland



114 YOUNG PEOPLE

got to experience solar energy first-hand during an intensive project week with Jugendsolar.



PROGRAMME

REFUGEES GO SOLAR+

📍 Switzerland

📅 Since 2019

👤 Responsibility: Marieline Bader

🔗 www.solafrika.ch/en/projects/refugees-go-solar-switzerland



11 PEOPLE

in 2023 achieved all minimum requirements of the program and gained a permanent job with a solar company.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY, GLOBAL NETWORKING

The Scouts go Solar project has been training scouts from all over the world to become solar ambassadors for almost ten years.

Solar energy is not only an environmentally friendly source of energy; it is also accessible to everyone. Scouts go Solar relies on the global scout movement as a key player in spreading knowledge about the sustainability of solar energy. Solafrica works closely with the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the respective national scout organisations. The scout movement has over 57 million members worldwide, enjoys a high status in many places, is firmly anchored in local structures and is globally networked.

Scout leaders from all over the world have been trained as solar ambassadors every year for almost ten years. The success of Scouts go Solar lies in its combination of education, practical experience and social commitment. The project is helping to publicise solar energy worldwide. At the same time, it promotes social and economic upturn in the communities of the scout leaders.

In 2023, for the first time, rather than at the International Scout Centre in Kandersteg, Switzerland, the solar training courses were held in multiple regions of the world. On the one hand, this reorganisation enables the establishment of regional competence centres for solar energy, while on the other hand, it leads to savings in travel costs and a reduction in CO₂ emissions due to long flights. In addition, the respective trainers can focus more on special factors particular to each region.

The first regional training session was held in Kenya at the beginning of March 2023, with 18 people from 14 African countries taking part. The second decentralised training course was held in Bolivia in November, where 14 scout leaders from 13 different countries in Latin and North America were trained as solar ambassadors.

A regional training programme for the Asia-Pacific region will be held in Thailand in 2024. Furthermore, the now trained solar ambassadors carry out their own solar activities in their home countries on an ongoing basis, by which they reach both the local scout movement and the general population.

CAMEROONIAN GIRL SCOUT LEADS SOLAR INITIATIVE

As part of the nine-day regional training programme in Kenya, Cathy Nyake Elem from Cameroon delved deep into the world of solar energy and the energy transition: she soldered solar lamps, built and tested experiments and organised introductory workshops for scout groups. Like all participants, she also developed a project which she is now realising in her home country.

In Cameroon, the purchase of fossil fuels is a major expense for many families and therefore a financial burden.

This problem inspired Cathy to acquaint the population with the possibilities of solar energy. For this, the young woman used the time during the training in Kenya to develop a project, which she started off by qualifying a team of solar trainers. Together with this team, she then organised solar workshops for interested parties in and outside the scout network. And the transfer of knowledge will continue from there – because Cathy Nyake Elem still has many more plans.



PROJECT

SCOUTS GO SOLAR INTERNATIONAL

📍 Switzerland

📅 Since 2014

👤 Responsibility: Martin Wanner

🌐 www.solafrica.ch/en/projects/scouts-go-solar-switzerland

32 SOLAR AMBASSADORS

from 29 countries, mainly in Latin America and Africa, were trained in two regional training courses in 2023.

SOLAR VIGNETTE

21

News from our projects

More and more people are setting an example for the energy transition and sticking a solar vignette on their appliances. Our solar plants are getting bigger and bigger and the solar vignette is becoming increasingly well known.

New design, new packaging, new solar chocolate, new website – the solar vignette was given a revamp in 2023.

When you buy a solar vignette, you finance a piece of solar equipment that produces as much electricity as your appliance consumes on average in a year. Once a year, we build a new solar plant in Switzerland corresponding to the size of all solar vignettes sold. And those who wish can directly donate an entire panel.

Thanks to the solar vignettes and KlimaTickets purchased last year (see to the right), we were able to build another solar plant with our partner Solarify: In October 2023, 98 solar panels were installed on the two roofs of the Tscharnergut daycare centre in Bern. The plant is expected to produce as much solar power each year as is consumed by roughly seven to eight Swiss households.

The electricity proceeds from the three plants we have built so far flows constantly back into our projects. Thus you achieve a double effect with the purchase of a solar vignette.

The organisation LerNetz contributed to the new solar plant in 2023 by donating 20 solar panels. A total of 34 panels have been donated. Thank you very much!

Order solar vignettes now!

➤ www.solarvignette.ch



52,227 KWH SOLAR ELECTRICITY

were produced by our solar plants
in the year 2023.

TSCHARNERGUT DAYCARE CENTRE SOLAR PLANT:

This solar plant was installed in October 2023. The 98 solar panels will produce around 34,000 kWh of electricity per year. This saves 14 tonnes of CO₂ per year.

FANTASIA DAYCARE CENTRE SOLAR PLANT:

In 2023, 115 panels produced 44,331 kWh of solar power. This saved 17.7 tonnes of CO₂.

HOTEL ROTHORN SOLAR PLANT:

In 2023, these 25 panels produced 7,896 kWh of solar power. This saved over 3 tonnes of CO₂.

PROJEKT

SOLAR VIGNETTE

📍 Switzerland

📅 Since 2012

👤 Responsibility: Anna Opladen

➤ www.solarvignette.ch



77 KlimaTickets were purchased in 2023. This raised a sum of CHF 6,572, which we will invest in a new solar plant in 2024.

With the KlimaTicket, you donate one centime towards climate protection for every kilometre flown. 100 percent of this amount goes towards the construction of a new Swiss solar plant. As with the solar vignette, the electricity revenues benefit our solar projects.

We deliberately refrain from making an exact calculation of CO₂ emissions. Because that would create the illusion that emissions caused in one place can be saved somewhere else. In reality, however, the CO₂ emitted by the aircraft remains in the atmosphere for a long time and contributes to climate change. Avoiding CO₂ emissions is therefore always the most effective climate protection. With the KlimaTicket, you do help to protect the climate, but do not reverse the emissions emitted.

➤ www.klimaticket.ch

03 THE ORGANISATION

0

TEAM



AMADEUS THIEMANN
Project Manager
Jugendsolar



ANNA ABEL
Programme Manager
and Responsible for Solar
Learning Youth Centres



ANNA OPLADEN
Responsible for Fundraising
and Solar Vignette



CLAUDIO CEMATIDE
Financial Management
Consultant



ELIAS KOST
District Manager
Branch Office



FABIENNE BIEDERMANN
Responsible for
Communication



FLORA CONTE
Project Managers
Santé Solaire and
Climate Caravan



FLORIAN SCHLEGEL
Project Manager East
Africa Programme



MALOU CORNELSEN
Institutional Fundraising and
Project Collaboration



MARIELINE BADER
Programme Manager
Refugees go Solar+



MARTIN THEILER
Project Manager
Solar Fuels



MARTIN WANNER
Project Manager
Scouts Go Solar



REBEKKA GAMMENTHALER
Institutional Fundraising
and Project Collaboration



RENATO BREITENSTEIN
Responsible for
Administration



THEO WERLEN
Responsible for
Central Services



TIM BACHER
Junior Marketing and
Central Services

Solafrica is organised as an association. Its members are the Board of Directors and its permanent employees. It is not possible for private or legal persons to hold shares in Solafrica.

In 2023, 16 permanent employees shared 955 work percentages (as of 31/12/2023. 2022: 14 employees, 800 work percentages). The employees and board members of Solafrica also worked an additional 1,230 hours on a voluntary basis.

SOLACRACY

Since 2021, Solafrica has no longer been organised in a hierarchy. Instead, we work in a structure called “Solacracy”, a form of organisation adapted to us, inspired by the concepts of Holocracy and Sociocracy. Instead of hierarchies, Solafrica focuses on purpose-built roles and circles that represent the different responsibilities and fields of activity. In this way, we promote dynamism and equality in our processes.

Solafrica attaches great importance to progressive working conditions for its employees. Another aspect of Solacracy is a fair, comprehensible and transparent wage system. Decisions concerning the development of the organisation are discussed together in team meetings held every two weeks.

We maintain close cooperation and communication on equal terms with our partner organisations in the project countries. Strategic decisions are prepared and made together.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The executive body of Solafrica is the Board of Directors.

- Cédric Marty (Co-Präsident), MSc Management, Technology and Economics ETH, Head of Sustainability
- Kuno Roth (Co-Präsident), Dr. rer. nat. Chemistry, Human Ecologist, Environmental Educator, Journalist
- Carmen Carfora, lic. phil. UZH, MAS Communication Management and Leadership, Head of Sustainability
- Christine Badertscher, MSc Agronomie, Member of the National Council
- Daniel Wyniger, lic. rer. pol., Certified Public Accountant, MSc Applied Ethics, Audit Expert of the Swiss Federal Audit Office
- Nadja Scherrer, Exec. MA in Intercultural Communication, VP/JEDI & Sustainability Strategist
- Raphael Engler, MSc Management, Technology, and Economics ETH, Management Consultant





THOMAS
GÄRTNER,
PRIVATE DONOR

« With its projects and ideas, the Solafrica organisation has grown close and dear to my heart. For me, Solafrica stands for a social, communal and ecological future. I would particularly like to emphasise that Solafrica's projects give people in less privileged countries the opportunity to shape their own energy future in an environmentally sound way. I am therefore very pleased to be a part of Solafrica with my donation.»

« Solafrica impresses us with its solution-oriented, effective and directly tangible approach, which fits in perfectly with the focus of the Greenpeace environmental foundation. We are currently delighted to be supporting the Scouts go Solar and Santé Solaire projects. By training solar ambassadors and installing PV systems at health centres, Solafrica is helping to make the world that much better each day for people and nature. We are happy to continue supporting this!»



SANDRA GÜNTNER,
GREENPEACE
ENVIRONMENTAL
FOUNDATION



YVES STETTLER,
SOLARSPAR

« Solarspar supports Solafrica because the energy transition has to happen on a global scale. It is important to us that clean solar technology be used not only in Switzerland, but also in countries of the Global South. We especially like the fact that it not only strengthens healthcare provision, but also opens up new prospects for young people through solar training. This holistic promotion of sustainable development and self-reliance is in line with our values and goals, which is why we have been actively supporting Solafrica for years.»

04 FINANCES AND ACCOUNTING

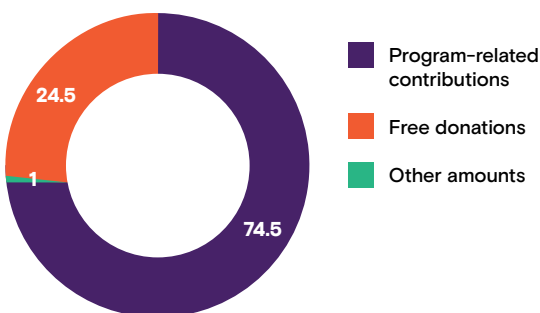


FINANCIAL SITUATION AND PLANNING

From a financial perspective, 2023 was a break-even year for Solafrica: Slightly lower income was offset by slightly lower expenses. Both can be explained by multiple expiring projects and a tense economic environment. Nevertheless, the overall result was slightly positive.

EARNINGS

ORIGIN OF FUNDS (%)



In 2023, we too felt the effects of the difficult economic environment. Both unrestricted income and earmarked project contributions fell slightly. This resulted in a total income of a good CHF 2.1 million. Solafrica continues to be funded largely through contributions from institutional donors. Private donations, including earmarked large donations and sponsorships, are an important and still growing source of income. These revenues currently account for a share of 29.5 percent.

EXPENDITURE

Last year, we invested heavily in the development of new projects for promoting solar energy in the Global South, while at the same time we were able to tackle some long-standing projects at our office in Bern. For example, we introduced a new database, set up a programme for major

private donors and, together with three other organisations, developed an alliance programme for the purpose of applying for SDC programme contributions. All of this led to a total expenditure of around CHF 2.3 million. The greater expenditure than income is covered by the previously established earmarked project funds.

RESULT

Overall, we close 2023 with a positive result of CHF 15 thousand. We are convinced that, with the investments we have made, we have created the basis for being able to realise our impact targets even more purposefully and with more resources in the future.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

Even while other crises around the world are currently making the headlines, we still see the climate crisis as one of the most urgent challenges of our time. Solar energy is not only central to counteracting global warming, but also plays an important and growing role in the adaptation of the societies affected in the Global South. For this reason, the expansion of solar energy is still important and urgent for humanity and the climate in 2024.

Following last year's major investments, the aim now is to utilise the basis established by these investments to continue making an ever greater contribution.

P/L STATEMENT

OPERATING STATEMENT	2023	2022
Donations and legacies	520'632	558'149
Program-related contributions	1'341'153	1'544'522
Contributions from programs	247'495	249'757
Supplies and services	-	-
Other income	21'637	5'583
Operating income	2'130'917	2'358'011
Cost of goods and materials	-	-
Direct programme services	-1'186'752	-1'447'249
Personnel	-895'367	-763'395
Real estate, furniture and vehicles	-29'406	-31'939
Other operating expenses	-223'777	-214'937
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	-3'968	-3'878
Operating expenses	-2'339'270	-2'461'398
OPERATING RESULT	-208'353	-103'387
Financial income	0	96
Financial expenses	-531	-4'606
Income from sideline operations	3'643	3'655
Non-operating and extraordinary income	1'887	771
Other income	4'999	-84
RESULT BEFORE CHANGE IN FUND CAPITAL	-203'354	-103'471
Allocation of fund capital	- 1'319'602	-1'544'521
Use of fund capital	1'538'224	1'844'629
Change in fund capital	218'622	300'108
RESULT BEFORE CHANGE IN ORGANISATIONAL CAPITAL	15'268	196'637
Allocation of organisational capital	-650'594	-657'548
Use of organisational capital	635'326	460'911
Change in organisational capital	-15'268	-196'637
RESULT	-	-

All amounts are stated in CHF and have been rounded.

BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET	2023	2022
Cash and cash equivalents	737'352	1'022'878
Accounts receivable supplies and services	45'625	35'916
Other receivables	-	-
Inventories and unbilled services	22'124	-
Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	750	29'655
Current assets	805'851	1'088'449
Financial assets	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	176'253	100'762
Intangible assets	61'506	-
Fixed assets	237'759	100'762
TOTAL ASSETS	1'043'610	1'189'211
Accounts payable supplies and services	115'677	71'035
Current interest-bearing liabilities	-	-
Other current liabilities	4'304	-
Accrued expenses and deferred income	2'900	2'700
Short-term liabilities	122'881	73'735
Long-term interest-bearing liabilities	-	-
Other long-term liabilities	8'608	-
Provisions and similar items	-	-
Long-term liabilities	8'608	-
Fund capital	411'698	596'913
Free capital	500'424	518'563
Organisational capital	500'424	518'563
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1'043'610	1'189'211

All amounts are stated in CHF and have been rounded.

FUNDING SOURCES

Solafrica is financed mainly by institutional contributions, government grants and donations from private individuals.

INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Many thanks to the following foundations, cantons, municipalities and parishes, who made Solafrica's projects possible in 2023:

- Accordeos Stiftung
- Amt für Umwelt und Energie Bern
- Anne Frank Fonds
- ARWEBA-Stiftung
- atDta-Stiftung Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe
- BKW Energie AG
- Bundesamt für Energie, EnergieSchweiz
- Caritatis Stiftung
- Claire Sturzenegger-Jeanfavre Stiftung
- Edith Walder-Stiftung
- Ernst Göhner Stiftung
- ETHIUS Stiftung
- Ev.-ref. Landeskirche des Kantons Luzern
- Ev.-ref. Kirchgemeinde des Kantons Zug
- Fivetolife
- Fondation Philanthropique Famille Sandoz
- Gemeinde Baar
- Gemeinde Ersigen
- Gemeinde Herrliberg
- Gemeinde Kirchberg BE
- Hans Gutjahr-Stiftung
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- Lotteriefonds Kanton Schaffhausen
- Lotteriefonds Kanton St. Gallen
- Lotteriefonds Kanton Zug
- Maya Behn-Eschenburg Stiftung
- Medicor Foundation
- Ökumenische Arbeitsgruppe für Entwicklungshilfe Stäfa/Ürikon
- pancivis stiftung
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- Solargenossenschaft Gugger-Sunne
- Solarspar
- Stadt St.Gallen
- Stadt Wetzikon
- Stadt Zürich
- Stiftung ABANTU
- Stiftung Corymbo
- Stiftung Drittes Millennium
- Stiftung Pro Evolution
- Stiftung Salud y Vida
- Stiftung there-for-you
- Swissquote Bank AG
- TMR Welfare-Stiftung
- Ueli Schlageter Stiftung
- Umweltstiftung Greenpeace
- Verein Solardach Titus Kirche
- Vivi Kola AG
- Volkart Stiftung
- Vontobel-Stiftung

And more

PRIVATE PERSONS

We would like to thank all our private donors who supported us faithfully and generously in 2023, as well as all those who purchased solar vignettes or a KlimaTicket. They have all helped to ensure more solar power flows in our project countries.

SPONSORING MEMBERSHIP

Solafrica's sponsoring members pay a contribution to the organisation once a year:

- **Sponsoring membership Regular:**
CHF 80 per year
- **Sponsoring membership High Voltage:**
CHF 240 per year

Sponsoring memberships are particularly valuable to us because they are consistent and we can build on them.

Thank you all!

➤ www.solafrica.ch/en/support/become-a-sponsoring-member



LEGAL NOTICE

This annual report relates to the activities of Solafrica between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023.

Pictures

Pictures were taken by Solafrica employees or partner organisations.

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DILIGENCE AND TRANSPARENCY

Solafrica has been Zewo-certified since 2015. This seal of approval stands for:

- earmarked, economical and effective use of your donation
- transparent information and meaningful accounting
- independent and appropriate control structures
- sincere communication and fair fundraising



**Ihre Spende
in guten Händen.**

Solafrica is recognised as a non-profit organisation by the canton of Berne. Donations to Solafrica are tax-deductible in most cantons.



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